

THE UNIVERSITY OF JENA.

Theodore Fischer, a German architect, has won the first prize for the plan of the new buildings of the University of Jena. The intention was to have it erected in some old German style and yet adapted to modern methods. The annexed illustration shows how well the architect has succeeded, not so much by detail work as by the *ensemble* of the whole complex of houses, in appearance like a mediæval castle with tower and walls and court yards, yet suited to the needs of university work.

AN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF GERMANICS.

THE Northwestern University of Evanston, Ill., has always made efforts to be well equipped in its German department and its present president, Prof. Edmund J. James, proposes to push this feature with special vigor. We have received an announcement which proposes the foundation of an "American Institute of Germanics," to be closely connected with the Northwestern University. "The fundamental purpose of this institute shall be," as President James states, "to cultivate a knowledge and appreciation of, and consequently a love for, the intellectual and moral achievements of the German race. The institute will present an opportunity for the student to get in a brief time a cross-section, so to speak, of the entire product of German culture as worked out and achieved through the ages by the efforts of German scholars, poets, artists, writers, scientists and statesmen; it will be a monument in the midst of this rising people to the glorious achievements of a kindred race beyond the sea, and will be a standing inspiration and source of power and influence to that vast and important German element which has entered so largely into the life-blood and history of this people; it will stir the pride of the German-American and the German-American's children in the history and achievements of the stock from which they come; it will be an incentive to all other Americans to emulate the example of honesty, faithfulness, uprightness, idealism and thoroughness which are associated with the German name.

"Such an institute may well become, not merely the Mecca of the young American student who wishes to learn something of the secret of German life and power; not merely a place where the descendants of the German-American can go to receive a touch of that inspiration which comes from the study of the history of their ancestors in their great world beyond the sea—resulting surely in a quickened sense of power and vigor in our own people; but it may easily become a matter in which the Germans throughout the world will be interested and a standing monument to the achievements in science and art, in institutions and in arms of that people which has kept in its purest forms the qualities which gave it the victory over the Roman Empire at the time of Rome's greatest power and magnificence."

President James studied for a long time in Germany. He is in close touch with German science and German sentiment. His wife is a native German and she has always endeavored to make the influences of German thought paramount in her home, as well as in her husband's sphere of influence. Evanston—near enough to Chicago, where the German element is so predominant, and at the same time far enough not to suffer under the disadvantages and drawbacks of the big city to student life—will be the best